

MINNEAPOLIS STAR-TRIBUNE (MN)  
13 April 1984

## 75 protest presence of CIA recruiter at Carleton

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While a dozen Carleton College students met inside with a CIA recruiter, about 75 people stood outside in a chilly rain Thursday to protest CIA activities in Nicaragua.

Accusing the CIA of "double-think" and empire-building, political science professor Tom O'Connell told the crowd, mostly students, that it is the responsibility of scholars and teachers to speak plainly. "I hope that they will report back to Washington that there is a revolt brewing here in Northfield," O'Connell said.

Sending a message to Washington and to fellow students was the primary reason for the protest, said student Jane Welna of Carleton's Central American Solidarity Committee.

"We want people to know it is not a radical method," Welna said. "We are not against the CIA (in general) and we are not out to intimidate anyone." Rather, the protest was against covert operations in Nicaragua and to try and make fellow students aware of the CIA's history in

Central America, she said.

"It's absolutely vital for these people to consider their applications carefully," said Colin McGinnis, a Carleton senior. "In 1984, when people are so concerned about getting jobs, we need to take a grander view."

Inside, after hearing about the CIA's need for researchers to distill the information it gathers, some students said they disagreed with the CIA's guerrilla operations but felt they could be happy working in its research branch.

Carolyn Baker, a history major, disagreed with the protesters that working for the CIA was a moral question, particularly at a beginning position.

"I don't think a moral decision is in our hands with an agency as large as the CIA," she said. "That comes a couple of years later," she said.

To three students scheduled for job interviews, the protests had little effect as they were exploring jobs. "It didn't have a detrimental effect on me, said Steve Ford, political science major.

"Their convictions are good and well thought out," he said. "I hope they will respect my opinion just like I would respect theirs. After all, this is a place to provoke thinking," he said.